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25 August 1948

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Collection and Dissemination
SUBJECT : Storage of Vital Documents

1. I have today discussed with Lt. Col. Marshall, Office, Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, and Maj. A. T. Schrader, Signal Corps (Room 5A910, National Defense Building, Ex. 4748), the communication facilities which might be available to CIA to be considered in "Disaster Planning."

2. The Chief Signal Officer has, as a part of the Army's emergency plans, certain decentralization expedients for immediate and longer range communications after a disaster. And also a counter-sabotage emergency plan. In essence they are:

a. An emergency command post at the Headquarters

of the Army Ground Forces, Fort Monroe, Va. Communication facilities are available there in a stand-by status for contact with the six Armies (1- Fort Jay, Governor's Island, N. Y., 2- Fort George G. Meade, Md., 3- Fort Monrison, Ga., 4- Fort Sam Houston, Tex., 5- Chicago, Ill., and 6- the Presidio of San Francisco, Cal.) These facilities are inadequate for full time communications with all Armies. They will have to be scheduled and will be limited to "command messages."

b. A stand-by team (stationed at Fort Monmouth, N. J.) with sufficient equipment available for dispatch to a point to be designated as an alternate Command Post. These facilities are capable of expansion to replace the full Army facility now in the Pentagon Building.

c. A facility at Vint Hills Farms, Va. capable of reestablishing Zone of Interior communications within two to three hours and overseas communications within the same time IF the transmitters at Battery Point (4 1/2 miles air line from the Pentagon) are not put out of action.

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4. A plan for reestablishing CIA (OSO) communications in the event those are put out of action. This plan is available to the communications people of OSO.

3. It is to be assumed that the various Armies have communications facilities to tie-in to the Army Headquarters each of the posts under their command. It is further to be assumed that the Air Force Bases are within such a net work, possibly the same. (This will be explored by ICAPS.) In most cases, under the present organization of the Army and the Air Force, the posts or bases are located at some distance from the industrial centers in the United States. The possibility of using Army Posts or Air Force Bases as "rallying points" for CIA should therefore be explored.

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Colonel, OSO

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